Decline in ground water level

†2227. SHRI AMAR SINGH.
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the level of the ground water in most of the areas has gone down in the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise data thereof during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to raise the falling ground water level in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) An analysis of ground water levels by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources during the last three years indicates decline in ground water levels in localized pockets in various parts of the country. The State-wise data thereof is given in the statement (*See* below).

(c) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to take steps to raise falling ground water level in the country. The Central Government has initiated following measures in this direction —

(i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme for Study of Recharge to Ground Water in the country.

(ii) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.

(iii) Circulation of a Model Bill in the year 1970 which was re-circulated in 1992 and again in 1996 to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iv) Organisation of 187 mass awareness programmes and 118 training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water

(v) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development

(vi) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (**www.cgwbindia.com**) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use

(vii) Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India have been requested to provide roof top rain water harvesting structures in the buildings under their control

(viii) States/UTs have been requested to amend building bye-laws to facilitate rain water harvesting in their respective States

(ix) States/UTs have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in buildings under their administrative control

(x) All the States/Union Territories have been requested for advising the local bodies in their respective States/Union Territories to allow rebate in property tax to persons, who adopt roof top rainwater harvesting in their premises

(xi) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesing to around 1800 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals

(xii) Water conservation campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc , have been undertaken for the purpose

Statement

State-wise Number of Wells showing decline in water level and their percentage (From year May 2000 to year May 2003)

Sl No	State	No. of Observation wells	Number of Observation Wells/Percentage showing decline						No of Observation Wells showing decline
			Decline 0-2 m		Decline 2-4m		Decline >4 m		
1	Andhra Pradesh	871	368	42 25%	168	19 29%	173	19 86%	709
2.	Bihar	201	78	38 81%	12	5 97%	9	4 48%	99
3	Chattisgarh	268	132	49.25%	33	12 31%	40	14 93%	205
4	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	9	2	22 22%	1	11 11%	2	22 22%	5
5	Delhi	56	15	26 79%	17	30 36%	9	16 07%	41
6	Gujarat	618	203	32 85%	86	13 92%	148	23 95%	437
7	Haryana	326	110	33 74%	81	24 85%	49	15 03%	240
8	Himachal Pradesh	50	27	54 00%	8	16 00%	8	16 00%	43
9	Jharkhand	93	46	49 46%	11	11 83%	7	7 53%	64
10	Karnataka	905	286	31 60%	143	15 80%	237	26 19%	666
11	Kerala	561	216	38 50%	19	3 39%	10	1 78%	245
12	Madhya Pradesh	748	285	38 10%	145	19 39%	158	21 12%	588
13	Maharashtra	788	264	33 50%	139	17 64%	186	23 60%	589
14	Orissa	875	445	50 86%	128	14 63%	42	4 80%	615
15	Punjab	268	87	32 46%	72	26 87%	54	20 15%	213
16	Rajasthan	993	158	15 91%	116	11 68%	376	37 87%	650
17	Tamil Nadu	712	190	26 69%	139	19 52%	228	32 02%	557
18	Uttar Pradesh	1028	573	55.74%	110	10 70%	140	13 62%	823
19	West Bengal	377	120	31 83%	25	6 63%	25	6 63%	170

For other states, no decline was observed during this period